

REMARKS

Claim 66 has been canceled by this amendment without prejudice.

In the most recent Office Action, the sole ground of rejection stated by the Examiner was the rejection of claims 29-66 under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over the claims of commonly-assigned parent U.S. Patent No. 6,392,863. In accordance with current practice, applicants are filing with this paper a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR §1.321(c). Applicants believe that the filing of this Terminal Disclaimer overcomes the obviousness-type double patenting rejection and places all remaining claims in this application in condition for allowance.

Applicants are also filing with this paper a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. As a result of ongoing litigation between applicants' assignee, Innovative Technology Ltd. and a third party, applicants have been made aware of additional patents. The Supplemental IDS cites that prior art. Applicants note that UK Patent 1,510,934 is based on the same priority document as German published application DE 2,619,620. As such, the UK patent is believed to constitute an English translation of or an English-language equivalent to the published German application.

Applicants also wish to make the Examiner aware of an Ex Parte Reexamination Request that applicants filed by Express Mail with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 16, 2004, in parent U.S. Patent No. 6,392,863. Applicants have not yet received a serial number for that reexamination request. In that request, applicants cited the same prior art as is being cited in the Supplemental IDS in the present application.

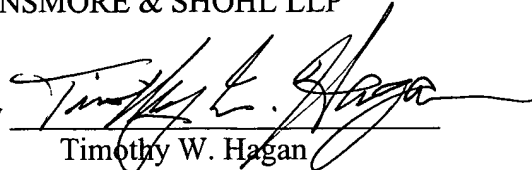
Because present claims 29-65 differ in several respects from the claims in the '863 patent, applicants believe that those claims are clearly patentable over the newly-cited prior art. For example, independent claim 29 recites features of the banknote path and the interaction of the processing means with the reversible banknote driving means. Independent claim 36 recites additional structural features of the non-return gate. Independent claim 45 recites the feature of the processing means controlling the timing of the reversal of the banknote driving means. Independent claim 52 also recites structural features of the non-return gate including a banknote guiding portion arranged for guiding an acceptable banknote along an acceptance path.

Independent claim 58 recites the structural features of the banknote acceptance and insertion paths. Applicants believe that the subject matter of claims 29-65 is patentable over the cited prior art of record including the newly-cited art in the Supplemental IDS.

Early notification of the allowance of claims 29-65 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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